

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 THIRD STREET, CHERAW, SC 29520

843-537-7002

www.cherawfirstumc.org



THE CHURCH WITH A HEART, IN THE HEART OF CHERAW.

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

AUGUST 22, 2021

13TH AFTER PENTECOST

LITURGICAL COLOR: GREEN

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Michael Williams

PRELUDE**“THAXTED (O God Beyond All Praising)”**

Holst, arr. Anna Laura Page

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joey Mills

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Joey Mills

L: Though storms rage around me, I will clothe myself with the whole armor of God.

C: I will fasten the belt of truth about my waist.

L: I will place strength and determination as my shoes to aid me in my ministry and mission for God.

C: I will take up the shield of faith with which I shall defend against evil ways.

L: I will pray diligently at all times, offering prayers and supplication to God.

C: The helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit will accompany me on my journey.

L: Be strong in the Lord who provides for your every need.

C: I place my confidence and trust in God always. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER²

Joey Mills

In the beauty of this place, we have come to pray, to worship, to receive healing and hope. We come from the struggles and triumphs of the week, needing to feel the soothing presence of God. Lord, be with us this day. Calm and soothe our souls. Cause us to rejoice that you have provided a special place where we may gather to talk of your presence and love; to sing your praises; and to be empowered to go forth to serve you. **AMEN.**

HYMN NO. 371*“I Stand Amazed in the Presence”**

MY SAVIOR’S LOVE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 885**

Joey Mills

***GLORIA PATRI**

GREATOREX

CHORAL ANTHEM**“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”**

Chancel Choir

BLESSING OF STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS**MORNING PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER**

Pastor Debra

CHORAL RESPONSE**“Fragrance of Christ” II Corinthians 2: 14-15**

Chancel Choir

HYMN NO. 395*“Take Time to Be Holy”**

HOLINESS

SCRIPTURE READING**Ephesians 6:10-20****SERMON****“Walk Like an Ephesian: Standing Firm”**

Pastor Debra

HYMN NO. 374*“Standing On the Promises”**

PROMISES

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Debra

BENEDICTION RESPONSE NO. 159*“Lift High the Cross” CRUCIFER**

Congregation

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name. Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sing. The hosts of God in unity combine. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.

POSTLUDE*“Postlude on WEBB”**

arr. Jason Payne

**If you are able, please stand.*

¹<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3010>

²Ibid.

A Blessing for Students, Parents, and Teachers
Written by Dan Wunderlich (DefiningGrace.com)

PASTOR: John Wesley lived in a time when education was not available to or even encouraged for all. Yet he believed that education was a universal right based on the Scriptural truth that we are all created in the image of God. We all equally deserve to learn and grow in knowledge, wisdom, and grace. He inherited from his mother the view that each and every child is “a talent committed to [us] under a trust by the great Lord of all the families, both of heaven and earth.” And so today, as we begin a new school year, we take a moment now to recognize and bless our students, parents, and teachers. To the parents, grandparents, and all in this community that help to care for these young people, I remind you of these words from Proverbs: “Train children in the way they should go; when they grow old, they won’t depart from it.” (Proverbs 22:6, CEB) Their success in the classroom can be aided and even amplified by the love, support, and direction you provide to them. Many times, throughout the Bible, God tasks parents and caretakers with the responsibility of participating in the education of children. With that responsibility on our hearts and minds, we extend our hands in blessing toward you and pray together:

CONGREGATION: O God, our eternal and heavenly parent, bless now these families. Fill their homes with joy and their hearts with love. Give them energy, strength, and discernment as they raise these children. And re-mind them that we, their community, and church family, are here to support them. Amen.

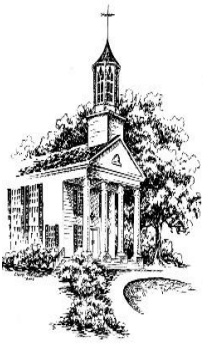
PASTOR: To the teachers who serve in our schools and at this church, I remind you that teaching is not only a profession but a calling. It is not simply a skill, but it is prominently featured in Paul’s listing of spiritual gifts. John Wesley believed that education was a channel for God’s grace and that excellent teachers have the ability to transform the lives of their students. We thank you for the commitment you make to our children. We recognize that you do not simply recite information, but you teach our students how to learn, understand, and apply knowledge. With that commitment on our hearts and minds, we extend our hands in blessing toward you and pray together:

CONGREGATION: Holy Spirit, the source of all wisdom, bless now these teachers. Fill their classrooms with learning and their hearts with compassion. Give them focus, patience, and creativity as they educate these children. And remind them that we, their community, and church family, are here to support them. Amen.

PASTOR: To the students who stand before us today, I remind you of this promise that the Apostle Paul testifies to in the Scriptures: “The one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion...” (Philippians 1:6, NRSV) This means that while you are growing and learning at home and at school, God is working alongside your parents and teachers to form you in to the person God wants you to be. God is equipping you and inviting you to be a part of the great adventure of life. Listen to and respect both your parents and your teachers. At the same time, know that your voice and your point of view matter. The Bible tells us adults not to look down on you because you are young but to recognize that you can be an example to us in speech, behavior, love, and faith. In gratitude for all that God will do in and through you this year, we extend our hands in blessing toward you and pray together:

CONGREGATION: Lord Jesus, who welcomed the children and held up their faith as an example, bless now these students. Fill their schools with community and their hearts with wonder. Develop within them wisdom, integrity, and maturity as they learn and grow this year. And remind them that we, their community, and church family, are here to support them. Amen.

FLOWERS: The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the Glory of God and in honor of Pastor Debra on her birthday by Mark Armstrong.



THE CONNECTION

The Mission of First United Methodist Church is to win and nurture souls for Jesus Christ by sharing and living the message of salvation.

www.cherawfirstumc.org

Volume 16,
Issue 31
August 15, 2021

A Few Words from the Pastor...

Many times, in the church and in our lives we focus on what we cannot do rather than what we can do. We are quicker to explain why justice and mercy cannot happen in our communities, in our families, in our lives. We blame the government, our society, and the horrible situations that dominate our social media outlets. All the bad news can be discouraging, frightening, and overwhelming.

Even so, we serve a risen savior who calls us to be in the midst of all the turmoil in this world and to offer a different perspective – a can do approach. The can do place for us to start is with prayer. In his book, *The Path of Prayer*¹, Samuel Chadwick says. “There is no power like that of prevailing prayer. It brings power. It brings fire. It brings rain. It brings life. It brings God.”

Prayer is not high tech. It is not flashy. It is not new. However, it is the best wireless connection on earth. It has a signal anywhere. It never drops a call. It is available 24/7. It always connects us to God. Prayer changes things!

As the new school year begins and we soon start a new charge conference year, you are invited to participate in a Philippians 1:9-11 challenge. Instead of dousing yourselves with ice water for a good cause you are challenged to pray for our church and our schools every day.

Use the Apostle Paul’s words in Philippians text as a guide to pray for God’s presence and power to be poured out in our congregation. Pray for the children to grow and learn in a safe place and to come to know God through the loving actions and words of Christ’s servants in the schools. Pray for hearts to be healed, lives to be made new, and all things made ready for whatever God has next for us to do. We can make a difference with prayer!

Philippians 1:9-11 NLT

⁹ I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. ¹⁰ For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. ¹¹ May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation-- the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ-- for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

Pastor Debra

¹ Chadwick, Samuel, *The Path of Prayer*, Jawbone Press, 2016

REVISED FUMC COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS



- ❖ Wearing a mask inside the church is optional. Masks will continue to be provided for use by medically fragile or unvaccinated individuals.
- ❖ Wash hands and use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer will continue to be provided.
- ❖ All entrances and exits may be used for Sunday School and Worship.
- ❖ Stay home if you feel sick to prevent the spread of illness.
- ❖ Respect others who need to maintain social distance for their safety.

OUR PRAYER LIST – Our President, our Congress, all Governors, Mayors, State, County, and Local employees, all health care workers, EMT's, all who defend our nation, all who make decisions for our nation, Jane Campbell, Jeff Foster, Mabel Foster, Jim Bennett, Phillip Caulder, Taylor Novinger (Dr. Novinger's son), Judy Quick, Scott Tomberlin, Charlotte Crosby, Jimmy Duffy, Betty Thrailkill, Theodore Burns, Mondell Brasington (Debbie Adams' mother), Terrence Smith (Laguana Smith, CDM worker's husband). **NOTE: Names are left on the prayer list for two weeks; after two weeks, they are removed unless the church office is notified.**

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR GRADES PRESCHOOL – 5TH GRADE: The Summer Sunday School schedule for grades preschool-5th grade is below:

August 29 at 9:00am

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY AT FUMC: Our Nurture and Care team at First United Methodist Church will provide rides to individuals to doctor's or other medical appointments. If you need a ride, please contact the church office at 843-537-7002.

WORSHIP ONLINE: Not able to be here for in-person worship? Then join us online! To worship online, go to our website www.cherawfirstumc.org. Click on the tab at the top of the page that says video sermon archive. The most recent worship service will be the first service listed. Worship services are available on our website by 2:00 p.m. on Sundays.

Coming up Sunday, August the 29th, we will mark this fifth Sunday by celebrating with a scripture and song service at our 11 o'clock gathering.

We ask you to email, text, or call in your song requests to:

email - fumcmusic01@gmail.com

call/text - 704-294-4510

VANCO

ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE

For bank account and credit card giving, we use Vanco
With this online service, you can:

- Make payments directly from your bank account and/or by using a credit card
- Give easily, quickly, and securely
- Include the processing fee in your donation/tithe
- Store multiple cards and bank accounts securely
- You can make a one time donation or set up for reoccurring donations

What is Vanco?

Vanco is an online giving service endorsed by the South Carolina Annual Conference. Once you create your account you will be able to give 10 seconds or less. You can access the giving portal at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YR20>.

Need Help?

If you have a further questions that we didn't answer, please feel free to email fumcangiesmith@gmail.com or call the church office at 843-537-7002.

EPWORTH IS OUR MINISTRY: Where do children go when DSS has taken them from their families because of abuse or neglect? Epworth is currently serving 294 children and families through their Residential and Independent Living programs, statewide Foster Care program, the Epworth Center for Counseling, the Early Intervention Center, and prevention services. Each of these children have found refuge in the ministry we share as United Methodists in SC. Epworth Children's Home has been welcoming children in Christ's name for 125 years through the generous support of churches like ours! We will participate in the annual Work Day Offering on Sunday, September 12th, to benefit the children who are served by Epworth. Please be in prayerful consideration of what God is calling you to give to this valuable and life changing ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit www.epworthchildrenshome.org or find them on social media.

MEMORIALS:

IN MEMORY OF JOE REID

M&M Eric Dusa

IN MEMORY OF JOHN MOORE

M&M Mickey Sullivan, Nancy Simonton

IN MEMORY OF BEULAH THREATTE

M&M Mickey Sullivan, Betty Teal and Family

IN MEMORY OF SAMMY EUBANKS

M&M Mickey Sullivan

IN MEMORY OF MANFRED KOLLITZ

Eleanor Spruill McNish

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, August 22, 2021

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Worship in Sanctuary

Wednesday, August 25 2021

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open

12:00pm August 29 Bulletin Deadline

Monday, August 23, 2021

6:30pm Boy Scouts (NETC)

Thursday, August 26, 2021

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

8:30am-4:30pm Church Office Open

6:00pm Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Sunday, August 29, 2021

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Worship in Sanctuary

Weekly amount needed for budget: \$5,797.85

Amount received for week ending August 15 \$1,386.01

Sunday School Attendance, August 15: 45

FUMC Food Pantry Item: Pancake mix/syrup

Greeters: Jay and Dawn Leach

Nursery Workers: Christy and Charlie Ruffner

Liturgist for next Sunday: Jenny Keefe

Amount needed year to date: \$191,329.05

Received year to date: \$194,439.47

Worship Attendance Sunday, August 15: 79

McArn Items: Lance or peanut butter crackers

Head Usher: Rhett Butler

Acolyte: Penny Quick

FUMC STAFF

Rev. Debra Armstrong, Pastor (fumcpastor1@gmail.com) 843-537-7002 O 843-253-3132 C

Angie Smith, Ministry Assistant (fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)

Tara McPherson, Child Development Ministry Director (fccdm@yahoo.com)

Michael Williams - Music Director (fumcmusic01@gmail.com) 704-294-4510 C